

## Claims

1           1. A viral expression vector comprising a nucleic  
2 acid which comprises (1) a transcriptional start site; (2) a  
3 promoter operably linked to the transcriptional start site;  
4 and (3) an enhancer operably linked to the promoter, the  
5 enhancer comprising the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or the  
6 RNA equivalent thereof.

1           2. The viral expression vector of claim 1, wherein  
2 the vector is a retrovirus.

1           3. The viral expression vector of claim 1, wherein  
2 the promoter drives transcription of a mRNA encoding a  
3 polypeptide, the transcription beginning from the  
4 transcriptional start site.

1           4. The viral expression vector of claim 3, wherein  
2 the polypeptide is a growth hormone.

1           5. The viral expression vector of claim 1, wherein  
2 the promoter is a tissue-specific promoter.

1           6. The viral expression vector of claim 5, wherein  
2 the promoter is a  $\beta$ -globin promoter.

1           7. The viral expression vector of claim 1, wherein  
2 the enhancer comprises SEQ ID NO:2 or the RNA equivalent  
3 thereof.

1           8. The viral expression vector of claim 7, wherein  
2 the enhancer comprises SEQ ID NO:3 or the RNA equivalent  
3 thereof.

1           9. The viral expression vector of claim 1, wherein  
2 the nucleic acid further comprises a transcriptional  
3 termination signal that terminates transcription from the  
4 transcriptional start site.

1           10. The viral expression vector of claim 9, wherein  
2 the vector is a retrovirus.

1           11. The viral expression vector of claim 9, wherein  
2 the promoter drives transcription of a mRNA encoding a  
3 polypeptide, the transcription beginning from the  
4 transcriptional start site.

1           12. The viral expression vector of claim 9, wherein  
2 the transcriptional termination signal is a polyadenylation  
3 signal.

1           13. A transgenic animal whose somatic and germ line  
2 cells contain at least one copy of a transgene comprising  
3 (1) a transcriptional start site; (2) a promoter operably  
4 linked to the transcriptional start site; and (3) an  
5 enhancer operably linked to the promoter, the enhancer  
6 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,  
7 wherein the transgenic animal expresses a transcript  
8 driven by the promoter, the level of expression in at least  
9 one cell type of the animal being proportionally dependent  
10 on the copy number of the transgene.

1           14. The transgenic animal of claim 13, wherein the  
2 animal is a rodent.

1           15. The transgenic animal of claim 14, wherein the  
2 animal is a mouse.

1           16. The transgenic animal of claim 15, wherein the  
2 somatic and germ line cells contain more than 5 copies of  
3 the transgene.

1           17. The transgenic animal of claim 16, wherein the  
2 somatic and germ line cells contain more than 15 copies of  
3 the transgene.

1           18. The transgenic animal of claim 17, wherein the  
2 promoter drives transcription of a mRNA encoding a  
3 polypeptide, the transcription beginning from the  
4 transcriptional start site.

1           19. The transgenic animal of claim 18, wherein the  
2 polypeptide is a growth hormone.

1           20. The transgenic animal of claim 19, wherein the  
2 promoter is a  $\zeta$ -globin promoter, and the at least one cell  
3 type is a erythroblast.

1           21. The transgenic animal of claim 20, wherein the  
2 enhancer comprises SEQ ID NO:2.

1           22. The transgenic animal of claim 21, wherein the  
2 enhancer comprises SEQ ID NO:3.